

## COAL OUTPUT SURE TO BE CUT LOWER

*Continued from First Page.*

sake of taking up anthracite mining again at say \$300 a month.

Yet the need to induce a large num-

brought to see what is involved in a shortage of anthracite they might, however, go back as a matter of high duty to their country. What seems to be needed is a clear statement of the case from some one high in official authority who would not only explain but also appeal to anthracite mine workers as a matter of patriotism, of active war service, compelling them that a vital part

teen. For instance, one union leader, Dempsey of Wilkesbarre, has urged his fellow officers in the United Mine Workers voluntarily to bring back a nine-hour working day as long as the war lasts. Others are strongly opposed to the plan on the ground that the union strove for twenty years to obtain an eight-hour day and the men do not want to give it up. The plan for a longer working day may be adopted sooner or later, but not in the immediate future.

Many miners have no difficulty in earning \$300 a month if they work

eight hours a day for six days a week. As a large number of miners are con-

cent to earn less money and work fewer hours. The Liberty Loan organization has been successful in convincing individuals to a sense of personal responsibility toward the country. Unfortunately funerals as well as feasts and parties have been cut out of the recognized elsewhere materially reduced the output from mine labor, which usually is not more than 80 per cent. In effect, the average is not working and is down to 80 per cent in working time. The Liberty Loan committees are plodging their fellow workers to put in a full day's work and a full week. They are circulating cards which is printed the solemn agreement:

"So help me, God, I pledge myself to the United States to work full time, unless I am incapacitated by illness or disability."

Moreover, these cards are being signed and the pledge is being taken by a number of workers. The movement has been under way scarcely three weeks, yet the results already are noticeable.

The operators, at the suggestion of a mining man named Matthews, president of the local union of the Ninth district, in the Wyoming region, near Scranton, were asked to support a plan which might materially aid in speeding production. From time to time, the men were asked to show honor to men killed by accident. On the day of his funeral the whole mine would be closed down. Frequently this, and the wake, and the funeral, were held on the day of a virtual shutdown in production from that mine, or at least a serious interruption of work for several days.

Mr. Matthews proposed recently that in the case of a funeral all men keep their lights on except a special committee of five, who would be appointed to represent the whole working body and that in fairness to these five the operators should pay them full time

**Operators Welcome New Plan.**

The operators jumped at the chance to ratify this proposal. Furthermore, they agreed to pay \$150 to the nearest relative of such deceased mine workers in addition to the compensation to which he or she might be legally entitled.

The present situation is that anthracite operators are producing less than they did last year, because there are 19 per cent. fewer mine workers engaged in the industry. Before the war there were 17,000 workers in the industry. At present, according to Mr. Barker, the number has fallen to 144,000 and probably to less.

"It must not be forgotten," said the spokesman for the anthracite committee,

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Take its source—to draft the men as other men are called and afterward, if possible from a military standpoint, to send them to the mines. I am sure that these men to their particular work as coal miners. But it would be highly anti-social to send a man to the mines as a worker so detailed to get a badger to show he is no slacker.

I see no practical solution for mining work unless we left the anthracite fields for work in munition plants, shipyards and like industries. Such industry would be a very good thing, but on a basis can of course pay any rate wages necessary to get men. The mines cannot compete because they are so set up that they are fixed by the Government.

The most important thing to do present—if it could be done without detriment to the Government—would be to see that no more drafted men are taken from the coal mines while the war continues. I am sure that if he done to send back to the anthracite mines all mine workers now in training camps.

Of course I do not pretend to

"This would be decided, I suppose, by those in charge of army matters. But of one thing I am very sure. If the public is to get enough anthracite to pass through this coming winter by using all care and economy somebody in authority at Washington needs to speak out promptly, peremptorily and emphatically to war industry managers in general."

Just one sentence need be uttered by an official sufficiently powerful and that sentence is, "Hands off the anthracite mine workers!"

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**CANTEEN IN CITY HALL PARK**

**Mayor's Committee to Establish  
Third of Series.**

The Mayor's Committee of Women on National Defence, Mrs. William Randolph Hearst chairman, will open a large canteen for soldiers and sailors in City Hall Park this week. This is the third canteen established by the committee since June 8, when the pretty building

they erected at the southeast corner of the Public Library grounds, on Fifth avenue, celebrated its first day with a ham and eggs supper. Canteen No. 2 is at the lower end of Central Park. Canteen No. 1 has served more than 12,000 enlisted men and officers since June 8. July 4, 15,000 men came there to eat. Food and drink is served at cost. For 40 cents a man can get a chicken dinner, with chicken, rice, potatoes, salad, ice cream, cake or pie and tea, coffee or milk. Five cents is the price for any separate dish, and heaps of cigarettes are to be had for the asking. Canteen No. 3 will be on a slightly different plan from the others. There is to be a reading room and buffet service for food.

Mrs. Philip Lydig is chairman of the social welfare committee of the Mayors' committee, and under her committee operates the canteen committee, with Mrs. George Ethridge as head.

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